

The City of Hialeah
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Media Advisory

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL

Hialeah, Florida – At the Creative Learning and Playing Program (CL&P) *Lights on Afterschool* Open House, school principals and political dignitaries will join the City of Hialeah and its young residents as Mayor Julio Robaina proclaims October 16, 2008 as *Lights on Afterschool* Day in the city. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative, the federal government's principal funding stream for afterschool programs. To mark the occasion and to urge full funding for afterschool, supporters of will gather for *Lights on Afterschool* rallies in more than 7,500 communities. In all, one million Americans are expected to gather at events across the country to draw attention to the need for more afterschool programs. On hand that day will be refreshments, face painting, caricatures, and a light bulb decorating station for all to enjoy.

The CL&P program currently serves over 350 youth in Hialeah providing them a safe place to go after the school day ends. For more information about *Lights on Afterschool* or about afterschool programs in general, visit www.afterschoolalliance.org.

Afterschool programs keep kids safe, help working families and inspire learning. According to data from the Afterschool Alliance, 14.3 million children are without adult supervision in the afternoon hours.

When – Thursday, October 16, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. through 7:30 p.m.

Where – Walker Community Center 800 West 29 Street

For more information, please contact Maria Gomez at the City of Hialeah Education & Community Services Department at 305-698-3645.